

REMARKS

Claim 11 has been amended. New claim 23 has been added. Claims 1-13, 15-19, and 21-23 are currently pending.

On page 5 of the current Office Action, claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,574,608 (Dahod).

Dahod is directed to a web-based, buyer-driven commerce system that allegedly connects buyers and sellers. The Dahod system includes a web site that is accessible by potential buyers and sellers. The potential buyers post descriptions of products and services they desire on the Web site. The descriptions can then be accessed by interested sellers, who can selectively post responses to the buyers. According to Dahod, such information includes identifying information for the seller and a description of the product or service offered by the seller. The system then determines whether a particular buyer receives a response from a potential seller and charges the potential seller a fee.

The Dahod system allows the buyer to register with the system to post a listing. According to Dahod, the buyer can register information such as a name and contact information, for example, an address and telephone number. See Dahod, column 5, lines 23-25. One of the particular sections of Dahod cited by the Examiner, that is, column 5, lines 51-56, describes a situation in which the Dahod system automatically inserts into a field information which the buyer previously entered during registration. More specifically, the section states, "the system will automatically insert into field 238 certain profile information filled in by the buyer in form 220 of FIG. 5 as well as general geographic information from form 210 of FIG. 4.

The other section of Dahod cited by the Examiner, that is, column 6, lines 29-32, describes a situation in which sellers browse through buyer listings to find a potential buyer of their products or services. According to Dahod, sellers can look for potential buyers in selected categories and geographic locations or perform a text search of all listings.

Claim 11 has been amended to include the recitation, " storing member information in which the member information includes a home address and a proximal station when the member information is registered so as to retrieve information available in both a predetermined range of the home address and a predetermined range of the proximal station."

Currently amended claim 11 is patentable over Dahod, as Dahod does not store information including a home address and a proximal station and does not allow information retrieval based on a predetermined range of a home address and a predetermined range of a

proximal station. Rather, Dahod simply allows a seller to look for potential buyers in geographic locations. Hence, currently amended claim 11 is patentable over Dahod.

On page 5 of the Office Action, claims 12, 17, and 19-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,317,718 to Fano (hereinafter Fano).

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 12 is patentable over Fano, as Fano does not disclose or teach, “searching shops based on the service region and the search range, so that information related to one shop located in the search range is not retrieved in said searching when the registered service region of the one shop is out of a search range.”

Assuming *arguendo* that Fano’s “work persona” can be considered a proximal station, in contrast to the present invention, Fano does not search shops based on both a service region and a search range. Rather, in Fano, a suggestion is made according to vicinity, that is, “the closest store.” Providing a suggestion merely based on vicinity is not tantamount to or related to searching based on both a service region and a search range. Therefore, claim 12 is patentable over Fano.

Claim 17 is patentable over Fano, as Fano does not disclose or teach “providing information suitable for the move history of the user by changing a search condition based on the move history.”

The particular section of Fano cited by the Examiner, that is, column 40, lines 4-7, describes personalization and sending of information based on a history of user interactions. Thus, in Fano, information is personalized based on a history of user interactions. In contrast, the present invention teaches changing a search condition based on a move history, which is clearly not tantamount to or related to Fano’s disclosure.

As claim 20 was cancelled, the rejection with respect to claim 20 is moot. As dependent claims 21-22 depend from independent claim 17, the dependent claims are patentable over Fano for at least the reasons presented above for claim 17.

Claim 19 is patentable over Fano, as Fano does not disclose or teach, “an excluding part specifying places to be excluded and excluding said places from said single region registered by said registering part.” Thus, assuming *arguendo* (for the sake of arguing) that Fano teaches a defining part and a registering part, Fano clearly does not teach an excluding part. Therefore, claim 19 is patentable over Fano.

On page 7 of the Office Action, claims 15-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,424,912 (Correia). In Correia, a search is conducted for a

destination address to obtain a geographical latitude and longitude of the destination. See Correia, column 7, lines 25-26. Merely conducting a search for a destination address is not tantamount to or related to changing a search condition based on a moving speed of the user, as recited in claim 15. Therefore, claim 15 is patentable over Correia.

Regarding claim 16, merely conducting a search for a destination address to obtain a geographical latitude and longitude of the destination is also not tantamount to or related to changing a search condition based on a moved distance, as recited in claim 16. Therefore, claim 16 is patentable over Correia.

On page 8 of the Office Action, claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dahod in view of Fano.

Independent claims 1, 7, and 8 are patentable over Dahod in view of Fano, as neither Dahod nor Fano, taken alone or in combination, teaches or suggests, "so as to retrieve information available in both a predetermined range of the home address and a predetermined range of the proximal station. . .," as recited by independent claim 1, for example.

Dahod simply discloses information pertaining to sellers looking for potential buyers in geographic locations. Dahod does not provide information regarding retrieving information available in a predetermined range of the home address and a predetermined range of the proximal station. In fact, Dahod does not provide information regarding retrieving information available based on a predetermined range, period.

Similarly, in Fano, a suggestion is made according to vicinity, that is, "the closest store." Merely providing a suggestion according to vicinity is not tantamount to or related to retrieving information available in both a predetermined range of a home address and a predetermined range of a proximal station, as recited by claim 1, for example.

Therefore, independent claims 1, 7, and 8 (claims 7 and 8 recite language similar to that of claim 1) are patentable over the references, as neither of the references, taken alone or in combination, teach or suggest the above-identified feature of the claims.

As dependent claims 2-6 and 9-10 depend from respective independent claims, the dependent claims are patentable over the references for at least the reasons presented above for the independent claims.

On page 13 of the Office Action, claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fano. The particular section of Fano cited by the Examiner, that is, column 47, lines 20-56, describes a GPS receiver. No information is provided regarding

changing a search condition based on a moving speed of a user, as recited in claim 13 of the present invention. The other section of Fano cited by the Examiner, that is, column 40, lines 9-12, describes information regarding prioritization and simply alleges that the prioritization is "fast and scalable," which has nothing to do with the above-identified language of claim 13 of the present invention.

On page 14 of the Office Action, claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,356,839 (Monde) in view of Fano.

In contrast to the present invention, Monde does not change information pertaining to a type of travel (e.g., by foot versus by car) depending on a weather condition. In fact, Monde only discloses one type of traveling, that is, traveling by vehicle. Therefore, in Monde, regardless of what information is provided, it is assumed that a user is traveling by vehicle and information provided is based on travel by vehicle. See Monde, column 3.

Therefore, claim 18 is patentable over Monde in view of Fano, as neither Monde nor Fano, taken alone or in combination, teaches or suggests changing information pertaining to a type of travel depending on a weather condition.

Applicants respectfully submit that new claim 23 is patentable over the references, as none of the references, taken alone or in combination, teach or suggest, "changing a search condition based on information pertaining to a weather condition to provide information regarding a type of travel suitable for the weather condition," as recited in claim 23.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

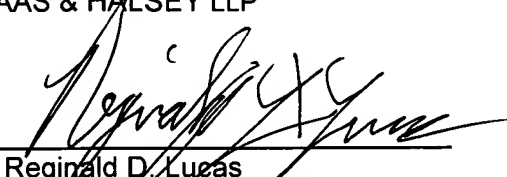
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If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 2/6/06

By: 
Reginald D. Lucas
Registration No. 46,883

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501